1	2	3	4
B.	*SCHEMES UNDER CONSTRUCTION*		
1.	Kadana St. II-Guj.	1×60	60
2.	Sardar Sarovar-Guj.	6×200	1200
3.	Ghatchar-Mah.	2×125	250
4.	Srisailam-A.P.	6×150	900
5.	Purulia-W.B.	4×225	900
		Total :	3310
C.	*SCHEMES APPROVED BY CEA*		
1.	Bhivpuri-Mah.	1×90	90
2.	Tehri St. II-U.P.	4×250	1000
		Total :	1090
		Total :	5894 MW

Electrified of Village in Meghat Region

2109. DR. SHRIKANT RAMACHANDRA JICHKAR:
SHRI SURINER KUMAR SINGLA:

Will the MINISTER OF POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of villages electrified in the Melghat region of the Amravati District of Maharashtra;

(b) whether Government are aware that even if electric lines are present at some places here, there is no benefit of actual electricity;

(c) what are the difficulties faced by this department from the forest department in matters of electricity supply; and

(d) in view of the fact that 4500 tribal children have died due to malnutrition and disease here during the last three years, what effective steps will be taken by Govrnment to make uninterrupted power supply?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGENDER K. ALAGH): (a) to (d) All 317 villages as per 1991 census are reported to be declared elctrified in Melghat region. However, 19 villages that were test charged in March, 1985 had to be switched off due to objections from the Forest Department. It is reported that some of these lines pass through Tiger Project Area. Maharashtra State Electricity Board is reported to be pursuing the matter with Forest Department to obtain the necessary clearances.

Antonomy to State Electricity Boards

2110 SHRI S. S. AHLUWALIA: Will the MINISTER OF POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Government have advised the State Governments to grant autonomy to their State Electricity Boards so as to improve their managements;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the response of State Governments in this regard particularly that of Bihar?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGENDER K. ALAGH): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Government of India have formulated a Common Minimum National Action Plan for Power based on the consensus reached in the Chief Ministers Conferences held on 16-10-1996 and 3.12.1996. The Action plan has bten circulated to all the State Governments for its implementaion in a time bound manner. The Action Plan *inter-alia* provides for giving maximum possible autonomy to the State Electricity Boards and improvements in their management practices and physical parameters.

(c) The Government of Orissa have already restructured their Electricity Sector by enactment of an Act i.e. Orissa Electricity Reforms Act, 1995. The Government of Haryana have recently passed a Bill for undertaking reforms and restructuring in their power sector. The Government of Rajasthan is also likely to pass a similar bill very shortly. The other States like Andhra Pradesh, Madhya Pradesh Karnataka, Gujarat, Uttar Pradesh, Assam, Kerala; Maharashtra, West Bengal and Bihar have also initiated action for undertaking reform and restructuring in their power sector. The Government of Bihar had appointed a Consultant to conduct a diagnosite study of their power sector. Phase.I of the recommendations of the Consultant have been accepted and draft policy paper on reforms is being considered by the Government. They are also working on modalities of framing of reform legislation which includes creation of generation, transmission and distribution companies and establishment of Electricity Regulatory Commission (ERC).

Setting up of Power Regulatory Commission

2111. DR. ALLADI P. RAJKUMAR: Will the MINISTER OF POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are contemplating setting up a Power Regulatory Commission to seek better cooperation of the private sector towards augmenting the power capacity in the country;

(b) if so, the details of the proposed commission, including its structure and powers; and

(c) other measures being contemplated to improve production transmission and distribution systems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY AND THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI YOGENDER K. ALAGH): (a) and (b) It is roposed to set up a Central Electricity Regulitory Commission (CERC) at the National level and State Electricity Regulatory Commission (SERC) at State level for rationalisation of tariff and matters incidental thereto. The CERC shall consist of a Chairperson and a maximum of 4 other members. The SERC would consist of a maximum of 3 members. The Chairman and Members of both the commissions would be appointed from the persons selected by Independent Selection Committees constituted for the purpose. The members of both the Commissions would hold office for a period of 5 years from the date of their appointment or until the age of 62 years whichever is earlier.

Both the Commissions will enjoy powers as are vested in Civil Courts under the Court of Civil Procedure for enforcement of their decisions, directions and orders. Appeals against the orders of the Central Commission would lie in the High Court and in the case of State Commission would lie with the Central Electricity Regulatory Commission (CERC).